# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1322
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
WORKSHOP OF FEMALE FOETICIDE
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**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a two day workshop was organized by the Centre for Advisory and Research to focus on India`s alarming record on female foeticide;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the steps proposed to further strengthen the enforcement of the provisions of the recently amended pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation and Prevention of Misus

(e) Act, 1994;

(c) whether the Centre had directed all the State Governments to sent quarterly report on the strict enforcement of the Act; and

(d) if so, the manner and extent to which the provisions of the Act have helped in eradicating the menace of the sex detection tests of the child?

## Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) & (b): Regional workshops have been held at Bangalore, Chandigarh, Ahmedabad, Pune, Nagpur and Hyderabad to sensitise the Appropriate Authorities appointed under the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 regarding the problems related to female foeticide and legal aspects of the Act, and to initiate communication between the Appropriate Authorities and the service providers, law enforcing agencies and general public.

In addition, a two day workshop was organised by the Centre For Advocacy and Research on 30th and 31st January, 2003 at New Delhi in which journalists from leading newspaper and other media persons, NGOs, social activists, Government officials and international organization/ medical associations etc. participated. In the workshop, the participants were sensitized on the condition of the girl child, the influence of deciding sex ratio in various States in India, the necessity for implementation of the law for curbing the practice of female foeticide.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the directions of the Supreme Court all the States and Union Territories have been advised to send quarterly reports on the progress of implementation of the Act indicating, inter-alia, information on the action taken to create public awareness; survey of clinics including search and seizure of records; action taken against persons violating the provisions of the Act, etc.

(d) According to reports received from various States/UTs, so far 360 cases have been filed in the Court/Police and 230 machines seized and sealed for violation of various provisions of the Act.